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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/818,155	03/27/2001	Roberto C. Taboada	60001.0014US01	1915
27488	7590	07/06/2004	EXAMINER	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			HUTTON JR, WILLIAM D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2178	

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/818,155	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TABOADA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Doug Hutton	<b>Art Unit</b> 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6-11 and 16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05252001</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Specification***

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it exceeds 150 words in length. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "column" on Page 14, Line 12 should be amended to — columns — so that the sentence reads more easily; and
- the term "row" on Page 23, Line 1 should be amended to — column — because that section of the specification describes "column banding."

Appropriate correction is required.

#### ***Claim Objections***

Claims 12 and 14-16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase "less than the" in Claim 12, Line 6 should be amended to — less than — because it appears to be a typographic error; Claims 14-16 have the same problem.

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "wuth" in Line 2 should be amended to — with — because it appears to be a typographic error.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Camarda, Bill et al., Special Edition Using Microsoft Word 2000, Chapter 9 – "*Tables: Organizing Your Pages*" (Que Publishing, 1999).

#### ***Claim 1:***

Camarda discloses a computer-implemented table styles inference engine for determining a table style for a table (see Chapter 9, Pages 1-2 – the software allows a user to build a custom formatted table and save the table as an AutoText entry for easy reuse), the engine operable to perform the steps of:

- determining an optimal uniform body pattern for the table (Microsoft Word 2000 allows the user to build a custom table with a "uniform body pattern;" thus, the

software “determines an optimal uniform body pattern for the table” as the table is custom formatted and saved in AutoText);

- determining an optimal row banding body pattern for the table (Microsoft Word 2000 allows the user to build a custom table with a “row banding body pattern;” thus, the software “determines an optimal row banding body pattern for the table” as the table is custom formatted and saved in AutoText);
- determining an optimal column banding body pattern for the table (Microsoft Word 2000 allows the user to build a custom table with a “column banding body pattern;” thus, the software “determines an optimal column banding body pattern for the table” as the table is custom formatted and saved in AutoText); and
- determining an overall optimal body pattern for the table (Microsoft Word 2000 allows the user to build a custom table with a “overall body pattern;” thus, the software “determines an overall optimal body pattern for the table” as the table is custom formatted and saved in AutoText).

*Claim 2:*

Camarda discloses the table styles inference of Claim 1, further operable to perform the step of:

- saving the overall optimal body pattern as a table style for the table (the overall optimal body pattern is saved as a table style in AutoText).

*Claim 5:*

Camarda discloses the table styles inference of Claim 2, wherein the table style comprises a plurality of cell styles (Microsoft Word allows the user to custom format a table style comprising a plurality of cell styles).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Camarda, in view of Microsoft Word 2000 (© 1999).

*Claim 3:*

As indicated in the above discussion, Camarda discloses every limitation of Claim 1.

Camarda fails to expressly disclose determining an overall optimal body pattern for the table comprises determining whether the optimal uniform body pattern, optimal row banding body pattern or optimal column banding body pattern most closely matches the table.

Microsoft Word 2000 teaches determining an overall optimal body pattern for the table comprises determining whether the optimal uniform body pattern, optimal row

banding body pattern or optimal column banding body pattern most closely matches the table (see Microsoft Word Help, "What happens when I save a document as a Web page?", Table formatting – the software analyzes the table formatting and "determines whether the optimal uniform body pattern, optimal row banding body pattern or optimal column banding body pattern most closely matches the table" in that it reformats the table into an HTML format) for the purpose of reformatting the table so that the HTML table will closely resemble the Microsoft Word 2000 table.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the inference engine, disclosed in Camarda, to determine whether the optimal uniform body pattern, optimal row banding body pattern or optimal column banding body pattern most closely matches the table for the purpose of reformatting the table so that the HTML table will closely resemble the Microsoft Word 2000 table, as taught by Microsoft Word 2000.

*Claim 4:*

Camarda fails to expressly disclose determining which of the following most closely matches the table:

- a uniform body pattern with no special rows and columns or a uniform body pattern with special row(s) and/or column(s), wherein a special row or special column comprises at least one cell with a different cell style than the majority cell style of the uniform body pattern; and



- saving the uniform body pattern that most closely matches the table as the optimal uniform body pattern for the table.

Microsoft Word 2000 teaches determining which of the following most closely matches the table:

- a uniform body pattern with no special rows and columns or a uniform body pattern with special row(s) and/or column(s), wherein a special row or special column comprises at least one cell with a different cell style than the majority cell style of the uniform body pattern (the software allows a user to custom format a table having the format recited in this limitation; thus, when the table is reformatted into an HTML format, the software makes the determination recited in this limitation); and
- saving the uniform body pattern that most closely matches the table as the optimal uniform body pattern for the table (the software "saves the uniform body pattern that most closely matches the table as the optimal uniform body pattern for the table" in that it allows the user to save the web page),

for the purpose of reformatting the table so that the HTML table will closely resemble the Microsoft Word 2000 table.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the inference engine, disclosed in Camarda, to determine which of the following most closely matches the table:

- a uniform body pattern with no special rows and columns or a uniform body pattern with special row(s) and/or column(s), wherein a special row or special

column comprises at least one cell with a different cell style than the majority cell style of the uniform body pattern; and

- saving the uniform body pattern that most closely matches the table as the optimal uniform body pattern for the table,

for the purpose of reformatting the table so that the HTML table will closely resemble the Microsoft Word 2000 table, as taught by Microsoft Word 2000.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Provided the objections to Claims 12-16 are obviated, Claims 6-16 are allowed.

#### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Sorge et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,691,281; and Sorge et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,613,098.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Doug Hutton whose telephone number is (703) 305-1701. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached at (703) 308-5186. The fax phone

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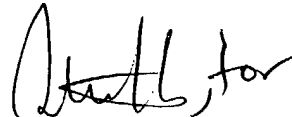
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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

WDH  
June 22, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Herndon", is positioned above the printed name.

**HEATHER HERNDON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECH CENTER 2100**